Dear mouse friends, Welcome to the world of



Geronimo Stilton









Geronimo Stilson A learned and brainy mouse, editor of The Rodom's Gazette



Then Stilton Geronimo's rieser and special correspondent as The Rodent's Gapene









Trop Stilton An awful joker Geronimo's courin and owner of the more Cherp Junk for Less



Benjamin Stilton A rweet and loving nine-year-old mouse: Geronemo's favorite neghow















Geronimo Stilton

THE ENORMOUSE PEARL HEIST



Scholastic Inc.



EIZZLING EWISS BITS! It was a blistering-hot summer. That day I had decided to skip the HOT subway ride and work from home. I was sweating at my desk, finishing up my latest **bestseller**, when suddenly...

Oops, how rude. I almost forgot to introduce myself. My name is Stilton, Geronimo Stilton. I am the editor of The Rodent's Gazette, the most popular paper on Mouse Island.



Anyway, where was I? Oh, yes, I was tapping away at my computer when all of a sudden I heard a terrible hissing noise.

Hisssss! I nearly jumped out of my fur. It sounded like a den of snakes! I was about to climb up onto my desk when I heard a strange knocking sound:

KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK!

Before I could get to the door I heard a small explosion.

Just then, black smoke started pouring out of my old air-conditioning unit.

Rats! Immediately, it seemed like the room grew ten degrees ROTTER.

I tried calling all the appliance stores in New Mouse City to see if I could get a new unit, but they were either out of stock or on vacation.

Sweat **trickled** down my fur. I was hotter than the award-winning entry at the New Mouse City **Great Balls of Fire Chili Cook-Off**!

To keep cool, I tried:

- Eating tons of ice pops (but I got a stomachache).
- Wrapping my head in frozen towels (but I got a headache).
- Putting my paws in a pail of ice water (but the pail sprang a leak).
- Taking a cold shower every thirty minutes (but that wasted too much time).
- Turning on my giant fan (but my papers flew all over).

Finally, I couldn't take it anymore. "Drastic times call for drastic measures!" I said to myself. Then I filled the bathtub with ICE Cubes. grabbed my manuscript, and immersed myself in the ICY water.

"Oh, it's so nice to be cool!" I squeaked happily.

I had just begun reading when the doorbell rang.



DING-DONG! DING-DONG!

Holey cheese! I was so startled I almost dropped my manuscript into the water!

With a grean, I CLIMBED out of the bathtub, wrapped a towel around my waist, and went downstairs.

"This better be important," I mumbled, flinging the door open. A beautiful rodent stood before me.

"Peturia Pretty Paus!"

I exclaimed, turning RED
with embarrassment. "What a
surprise!"





A GIFT FOR ME?

"Hi, G!" she answered, bounding inside.

One thing you should know about Petunia Besides being smart, beautiful, and kind, she has a **TON** of energy

"How are you, Nepulia... I mean Tepunia... I mean Petuna?" I babbled.

Oh, why do I always sound like such a fool around Petunia? It was bad enough that I was dressed in an old BATH TOWEL!



After more humiliating **bubbling**, I managed to explain to Petunia about my broken air conditioner. Then I told her to wait in the living room while I scampered off to get dressed.

I quickly threw on some clothes, poured two glasses of orange soda with ice, and returned to Petunia.

Just the sight of her made my heart go

thump! thump! thump!

In case you haven't guessed, I HAVE A TOTAL CRUSH ON PETUNIA. Too bad I'm too shy to tell her.

Just then Petunia handed me an envelope.

"I brought you a GIFT!" she said.

For me? I was so excited. Inside was a sheet of paper that said.

THIS CERTIFICATE
GOOD FOR:
Scuba-diving
lessons
on Shell Island!

I gulped How could I tell Petunia I was afraid to scuba dive? I could barely swim!
"Thanks, but "I began.

But Petunia cut me off "No buts, G, I'm going to Shell Island to FILM a documentary, and I want you to come It will be fun!" she insisted.

I was torn. On the one paw, I hate to fly, I

hate to swim in the ocean, and I hate to sleep in **STRUGE** hotel beds. But on the other paw, how could I say no to the rodent of my tlearns?

"Well, I guess ." I began

"Great! It's settled," said Petunia "We're bringing Benjamin and Bugsy Wugsy.

And Sweetful is coming along to watch them while I work and you rest."

Another thing about Petunia She's Super-organized!

"When do we leave?" I asked.

"Immediately!" Peruna squeaked



wasn't exaggerating when she said we were leaving immediately. In fact, I had only TEN MINUTES to pack!

It's not easy to pack when you're rushed. I should know. When I packed in a rush once before. I forgot to bring lots of important things (like my

and my Cheeseball the Clown night-light!).

After that happened. I promised myself I'd always be prepared. That's why I always keep **two** suiteases in my closet. The **REO** one is packed with everything I need for hot places. The **DIVe** one has everything I need for cold places.

So I grabbed the RED suitcase and raced back to Petunia.

"Okay, I'm ready!" I said triumphantly. Petunia's jaw nearly hit the ground, "How did you pack so last?" she squeaked.

"It just takes practice," I answered with a grin.

I could tell Petunia was impressed My heart did a happy PIIP-FIOP.



A few minutes later we were in Petunia's **SUV**, headed for Aunt Sweetfur's to pick up her. Benjamin, and Bugsy Wugsy, who were all ready to go.

See what I mean about Petunia being

organized?

When we arrived, Benjamin and Bugsy Wugsy hugged us Actually, Bugsy nearly SHOWED me to death but that's another story. . .

Aunt Sweetfur kissed us hello Then Uncle Grayfur clapped me on the back so hell the I felt like I might never walk again. For a

retired sea captain, that
old rodent sure is
STRONG'

"I'd give my whiskers to come with you!" Uncle Gravfur bellowed "But I've got an important conference at the Old Captain's Lodge.

and I can't miss it. Have a nice trip—just watch out for

SHARKS!"

Everybody laughed Except for me I chewed my pawnails

If the Did I mention how much I hate swimming in the ocean?

After we climbed into the car, Aunt Sweetfur blew a Kiss to Uncle Grayfur, and we left.

I was trying to relax when Bugsy began to sing. "I know? son8 + hit 12'ves everabled, C13."+" OVER and OVER.

This was going to be a **long** trip!





By the time we got to the airport, my head was **pounding** But, since I am a true **Gentlemouse**. I still offered to carry all the suitcases. Unfortunately, the rolling carts were all taken, so I had to carry everything by [38] My back was killing me!

But that was only the beginning

We were waiting for our suitcases to go

bag on the conveyor
belt set off the
alarm beep Beep' I
stared in horror

stared in horror at the suitcase. It was mine! "Is this yours?" a uniformed agent asked.

When I said yes, he asked me to open it.
I'll admit, I was a hittle embarrassed to have security pawing through my personal belongings. What if he saw my

? Or my Swiss cheese and orwear?
Still I had no choice

bulky sweaters, a twoof hat, waterproof blb? \$3. hiking BOOTS, and an too pickax for glaciers!

Pat-wukoniky rattleskahes!

I had somehow switched the contents of my cold-weather suitcase with the contents of my hot-weather suitcase!

"You can't carry a sharp fce pickax on an airplane' It's dangerous!" the agent scolded. "Where are you going?"



I coughed "Ahem I'm going to Shell Island, where I'm going to learn . . ." I was so EYBARRASSED I didn't want to tell him what I was doing, but knew I should. ". . . scuba diving," I mumbled, turning

beet red

The agent looked at me sternly "Well, then you won't need the pickax!" he said, and took it away.



AN ALARMING PILOT

"What am I going to do with these clothes?"

I wailed when I got the suitcase back.

"Don't worry, G!" Petunia consoled me.
"It was a simple mix-up. And this means that
when we get to the island, we're going
shopping!"

I sighed Oh, how I hate Shopping!
"Come on, **let's move it**—our plane's about to leave!" Petunia said.

If I knew what was waiting for me on the plane. I would have turned around and gone to the mountains! There were no regular flights to Shell Is and, so the TV station Petunia was working for had organized a private flight.

The problem, however, was not the plane,

but the pilot! He looked like an aviator from the last century with his leather helmet and pair of goggles covered with dust.

He also had a very loud voice.

"W. C. W. M. M. M. he shouted as soon as we boarded.
"MY NAME IS FLASH PIROUETTE. AND I AM CAPTAIN OF THIS AIRCRAFT. BUCKLE YOUR SEAT BELTS AND BRING YOUR SFATTO AN UPRIGHT POSITION! WE ARE ABOUT TO TAKE OFF!"

"He knows what he's doing, right?" I asked Petunia.

"He sure does!" she answered with a fmile. She continued excitedly, "He's so good, he's won the MOUSE ISLAND

STUNT FLYING CHAMPIONSHIP twice!"

As if he had heard her. Flash began 2162AGGING between the clouds,

op and down and up and down.

Y1KES! Even if I wasn't such a scaredymouse. I think that might have been too much for me!

Finally, we cleared the clouds and the airplane settled into a normal flight path.

After an hour, we came in sight of Shell 18land.

"There it is!" exclaimed Petunia, pointing to a tiny emerate-green spot shining in the middle of the dark-blue South Mousilic Ocean. It didn't look inhabited other than one small settlement

"I can't see the for the plane," I said worriedly.



"Of course you can't! There isn't any!"

"Wh-what do you mean there's no runway? How are we going to land?"

"We'll land in the WHTER and we'll get to shore with the airplane's life raft!" Petunia explained

"WHAAAAAAAAAAAAT? HEEEEEEELP!" I yelled, terrified.

Suddenly, the plane veered to the side and headed straight toward the ocean at full speed.

YIKES! I wanted to live!

Luckily, despite what I predicted. Flash landed the plane yert y and smoothly. We got to shore in no time at all.

A strange rodent greeted us on the beach.

"Welcome to She'd Island, Mr. Stikon! We've been waiting for you!"



THE PROVOLONE FAMILY

"My name is PINCH PROVOLONE, and I am the manager of the island's only hotel," the rodent continued.

"Nice to meet you," I replied.

"Please let my children Simon and Sinbad help you with your luggage," he said

Two muscular

rodents began unloading our luggage while Pinch greeted Petunia and the others.

Of course, Pinch had recognized Petunia.

Did I mention that she is a popular TV



REPORTER famouse for saving animals and the environment?

I was staring admiringly at Petunia when all of a sudden a voice velled, "Watch out!"

I saw a female rodent waving her paws at me.

Then everything went BLACK.

I had been accidentally SMACKED in the head with a suitcase!

When I came to, the hotel manager said,



"By the way, that was my daughter, Serena. She'll show you to your room."

When we reached my room, Petunia got me a bag of fce for the lump that was forming on my head. Auni Sweetfur sat by me and held my paw, "Smell this, deary," she said, shoving a little purple bottle under my nose, "It's deal for headaches."

I closed my eves Auni Sweetfur was right.

I felt a lot better I thought about Pinch Provolone and his three children, SIMON, SINBAD, and Serena. There was something about them that made them all look the same. What was it?

clue ng. 4





The next morning. I was having a fabumouse in which Petunia and I were riding the WAVES on the back of a dolphin. But it was interrupted by someone knocking at my door.

"Who is it?" I mumbled.

It was Petunia.

"Did you forget, G? We have to go shopping!" she squeaked.



Before I knew it. Petunia was DRAGGING me all over the place. We scurried from store to store like two mice in a rat race. When we left I was wearing.

- I. an Orange flowered shirt
- 2 pad-9rach Bermuda shorts
- 3. bright purple sandals
- 4. a Multico o ed cap.

I felt like a color-blind tourist.

"You look great, G!" exclaimed Petunia. Then she said good-bye and went off to begin filming her

DOCUMENTARY on the Island

Benjamin tried not to laugh when he saw me, but Bugsy Wugsy collapse, in a fit of giggles.

Aunt Sweetfur 5HOOED them away.

"You look wonderful! All you need is a touch of lilac." she said as she, wrapped a

purple scarf around my neck.

How ambarrassing! But what could I do? I couldn't insult my 500000 aunt.

So, dressed in that outfit, I left for my first scuba-diving lesson

When I reached the pier, my instructor was already waiting for me aboard a little MO*ORIZED dinghy

Strange He looked just like Simon, one of Pinch Provolone's sons

"Surprised, Mr. Stilton?" he asked "I help my dad in the hotel, and I'm also a **diving** instructor. But don't worry — I've only lost **One** of my students so far And it wasn't my fault. It was the shark's "

The shark's fault? My whiskers twitched nervously Oh, how I wished I were home?

Before I knew it, Simon was helping me

into my scuba suit. It was exhausting getting into all that. My fur felt like it was being ripped off, and I was Sweating

like crazy.

Then, when Simon tried to help me into the boat, I tripped and ended up in the water!

SPLASHI

After he fished me out and deposited me back in the dinghy, I waved a miserable

good-bye to Aunt Sweetfur, Benjamin, and Bugsy Wugsy.

Who knew if I'd ever see them again? We left the pier and headed off.

Once we hit the open **SEA**, Simon helped me put on my fins, mask, and tank

"Now sit there on the edge of the dinghy,

and whatever you do, DON'T MOVE!" he instructed.

I did my best to stay still but the boat was rocking back and forth, and the weight of the tank made me feel completely UNSALANCED.

Stay still! Stay still! I told myself. But it didn't work.

A minute later, I fell BACKWARD into the



water . . again' How humiliating' And SCARY' And I saw something TERRIFYING down there before Simon fished me out.

"Why didn't you stay still, Mr. Stilton?" he asked, looking slightly annoyed.

"I tried, but the boat was rocking too much, and the tank is so **heavy**, and —"

Simon rolled his eyes "Okay, okay," he said, cutting me off "But you have to listen, or you'll never get to do any diving."

To be honest, I wasn't sure I ever wanted to get back into the water after what I'd seen.

"Something down there tried to EAT me!" I told Simon. "It looked like a gigantic blue fish with enormouse teeth!"

"A giant blue fish with big teeth?"
Simon asked with a smirk

"Not just big teeth," I corrected him.
"They were huge, like DAGGERS'"
Simon snorted. It was clear he didn't believe me.





That evening at dinner, we all took turns talking about our day Benjamin and Bugsy Wugsy had gone swimming and made a

Sweetfur had collected little

[1] 2 (-colored yeashe]|

to make a pretty necklace

And Petunia had filmed a

lot of the island and was
already planning what she
would shoot the next day



I was hoping no one would notice I hadn't said anything when Benjamin said, "How about you. Uncle G? How was your first Wiff lesson?"

"Ahem, well, it was . . . er . . pretty, um,

good. . . ." I mumbled. What could I say? It was a total disaster. I was a complete **KLU77**. I had to be rescued **twice**!

Just then Pinch Provolone appeared with a **huge** platter of fish for the table.

"Don't be shy, Mr.
Stilton!" he chuckled "Tell
your friends about the big blue fish
that almost are you alive!"

I turned RED. I guess word traveled fast on the island.

"You saw a big blve fish and you didn't tell us?" Peturna squeaked "Tomorrow I'm coming with you I've got to FILM it!" Immediately, I felt better. At least someone believed me!

I was so happy that **Patina** was going to come diving with me, I couldn't stop smiling.

In RED sauce into my mouth. Big mistake! It was STr Bet Ye

"FILLIHITH THINITING THE Should de l'annual de l'annua

Pinch grabbed a bucket of fce water and poured it over me

"Oops!" he said when he realized his mistake.



Water **OPICOS** down my fur, forming a puddle around me 1 wrung out my tail, feeling like a drowned rat.

To make it up to me, Pinch insisted I try their special dessert: codfish ice cream

Note to self. Ice cream + Fish = Yuckl
I went to bed totally nauseous, and dreamed

I was being chased by a giant mouse-eating blue fish!





The following morning Aunt Sweetfur woke me up at six fifteen.



"I have to talk to you, dear," she whispered MYSTERIOUSLY

I was so tired, I felt like I had been in the ring with MUHAMMAD /QUEAKLI, the heavyweight boxing legend. Oh, why was Aum Sweetfur waking me up at such an unmousely hour?

"I was so intrigued by your story about the gigantic blue fish. I called your uncle Grayfur," she explained. "He told me there's only one creature living in the South Moustic Ocean with those characteristics. He also said that it's not a fish—it's a huge

oyster. It's a special species that is referred to as The Eye of the Ocean. They're usually as large as a fist, but, in extremely rare cases, they can become enormouse—and that's when they are very valuable."

"Why?" I asked, becoming more curious
"I don't know. The line went dead and I couldn't ask him. Oh, well, go back to sleep.



dearest nephew.

After Aunt Sweetfur left, I couldn't fall asleep. I kept thinking about the **giant oyster** Then just as I was starting to **drift off**. Petunia came into my room fully dressed.

"So, are we going? The SUN is about to rise!" she squeaked cheerfully. "The Provolone brothers said I have a better chance of spotting the blue fish if we get there at the crack of dawn. I'll meet you at the pier, G!"

Reluctantly, 1 left my warm bed, got dressed, and headed for the pier. Simon, Sinbad, and Petunia were waiting for me.

Once again, I struggled to get into my **wetsuit** What a workout! By the time I put on my suit, mask, fins, and the heavy oxygen tank, I was ready for a **nap***:

Instead, we took off for deep waters.
When we arrived, Simon said, "To be safe, I will be diving with you, Mr. Stilton."

Then he buckled a **weighted** belt around my waist.

"This is a ballast."
Simon explained. "It's used to help you get to the **bottom**."

I gulped But what if I wanted to get to the TOP? I was about to ask Simon when suddenly he velled. "GO!"

Then he threw me into the water.



A DROWNED RAT?

The good thing was, I was so surprised that I didn't have time to SCREAM and embarrass myself in front of Petunia. The bad thing was, I was so SUPPRISED that I held my breath' Immediately, I began to feel 05229

Then I felt someone grab my paw. It was **Peturia**, signaling me to breathe. So much for not embarrassing myself! I followed her advice and realized I didn't need to hold my breath—I had on an oxygen tank.

At that moment, Simon motioned for us to follow him.

But I couldn't The ballast was dragging me Straight to the bottom

I tried to move my fins like everyone else, but instead of going forward. I found myself **8 pinning** over and over. I looked like I was doing some kind of spastic in Jerwoten ballet!

Luckily, Simon noticed and swam over to help me Meanwhile. Perunia turned on the underworten video camera. I timidly **FLIPPED** my fins and was happy to see I was moving in the right direction.

For a while, I swam behind Petunia and Simon, feeling pretty confident. Maybe this scuba-diving thing wasn't so hard after all.

Maybe it could even be [111].

Maybe . . .

A second later, one of the flippers Slipped from my paw and I was left kicking sideways like a fish with one fin.
Oh. with y did
these things always
happen to me?

The ballast started DRAGGING me deeper and deeper toward the bottom 1 wanted to SCREAM but I couldn't, and no one noticed me.

Simon was leading the way. And Petunia was so intent on FILMING

that nothing would have distracted her

Headlines flashed before my eyes:



Publisher's Deader Dive! Geronimo Station The Story of a Drowned Rat!

The water was becoming **Gark** and murky It was so Spooky Could things get any worse?

Then they did. Suddenly, I noticed a and saw the gigantic blue fish!

Its mouth was wide open, and I was TUMBLING right into it'

THE EYE OF THE OCEAN

Desperately. I began fumbling with the weight belt, trying to unbuckle it, but my paws were trembling so much I was getting nowhere. I sank DEEPER and DEEPER.

Thundering cattails! The enormouse jaws of the **blue** fish were closing in on me! I was about to become a mouthful of furry fish food!

I looked up for the last time and I thought
I could see the from Petunia's
camera coming toward me Good-bye, sweet
Petunia' I sobbea to myself. Good-bye,
family' Good-bye, world'

But when I looked down again. I saw the most amazing sight. It was an alloRmouse





blue oyster, and its shell was completely open. In its center sat a huge,

I couldn't believe my eyes' Uncle Grayfur was right! I hadn't seen a gigantic blue fish—I had discovered the famouse giant ovster, also known as The Eye of the Ocean!

Unfortunately, as soon as I hit bottom, I kicked up a following of sand, and the shell snapped uself shut as if it wanted to protect us treasure.

A minute later, Simon also arrived. Simon tried to open the **blue** pod with his bare paws, but the oyster's **shell** was completely sealed.

He tried to force it with a rock, but still it wouldn't open.

I was glad Peruma motioned for

him to stop The oyster was so becotiful. It would be awful if he runed it Finally, Simon removed my **Weighted** belt and signaled for us to go up I couldn't wait to reach the boat





A VERY RICH MOUSE!

As soon as we got out of the water, Simon told Sinbad all about the treasure I had discovered.

"I think it's the biggesi example of The Eye of the Ocean that has ever been found." he said

Then for some reason, the two of them exchanged an odd look.

HOW STRANGE!

Meanwhile, Petunia was ...
"I'm so glad I was able to F I L M the shell before it closed! I can air this piece during my broadcast on the South Mousific Ocean!" she squeaked.

"And I can write up an article for The Rodent's Gazette today, and email it to the

office." 1 added. "Tomorrow the amazing discovery of The Eye of the Ocean will be plastered all over the FRONT PAGE:"

Suddenly, my near-drowning experience seemed like it had been a lifetime ago. I was so excited about the oyster. I hardly noticed Simon and Sinbad shooting me attange looks. Maybe they were staring at my fur. It was stroking to all over the place after our dive.

Later at dinner, Pinch Provolone explained that since I had found the Chin [South L. tradition ruled that it belonged to me. "You are a very RICH mouse, Mr. Stilton!" he declared.

Then he promised that his whole family would be more than happy to help me retrieve the **enormouse** oyster from the bottom of the sea.

Aunt Sweetfur, Benjamin, and Bugsy Wugsy wanted to hear all about how I found the **Oyster**, so I told them.

"I wonder how much that pearl is worth!" Bugsy thought aloud when I had finished.

"It's process as share a share

to take something so phecials from the ocean Maybe it is best to LEAVE it where it is. What do you think, Geronimo? After all, it is your decision.

I scratched my head On the one paw, it would be an amazing treasure to own. But on the other paw, I agreed with Aunt Sweetfur. The pearl belonged to the OCEAN. I knew I had to do the right thing

Finally, I said, "I will publish my find in the paper, and Petunia will air her piece on TV, but we will leave the **Oyster** in its natural home: the

Perunia looked at me with teats in her eyes.

"Oh, G, you're such a **gent lemouse**." she said with a sigh.

I was so busy staring into Petunia's eyes, I didn't notice Simon, Sinbad, and Serena



SCAMPEP out of the room. But Benjamin and Bugsy did, and they were worried.

"Uncle Geronimo, where is your laptop?" Benjamin squeaked.

"And where is your video CAMERA

Aunt Petunia⁹ Bugsy

added.

A bad feeling WAThte over me.

CIUE ng. 2



WHAT ARE BENJAMIN AND BUGSY WORRIED AROUT?

That a mean or will stock the comerc on a computer



I ran to my room to check on my LBPTUP while Petunia checked her room for her video camera. Moldy mozzarella! They were both

Now I couldn't send my arricle to The Rodent's Gazette, and Petunia couldn't air the film she had taken of The Eye of the Ocean. I was in Record Was someone out to **steal** the giant oyster and its giant pearl before we spread the news of its discovery?

But who?

We headed down to the lobby to talk to the manager.

"StoLen?" Pinch said when he heard our news "How strange Nothing like this

st den'

has ever happened in my hotel.

Who could it have been?"

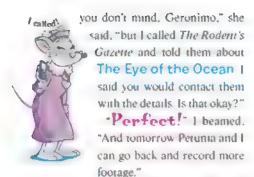
Petunia crossed her paws.
"Maybe you could tell us
where your Children ran
off to after dinner," she said.

But just then Simon, Sinbad, and Serena arrived carrying a large CheeSeCake platter "We were just getting dessert. Want some?" Serena squeaked.

I was going to ask why it took three mice to carry **one** platter, but I was too busy drooling. Did I mention I love cheesecake?

"We will keep our eyes peeled for the missing items." Pinch assured me as I nibbled One tiny piece of cheesecake. Well, okay, maybe it was more like **FOUR GIANT** pieces of cheesecake, but who's counting?

Just then Aunt Sweetfur appeared "I hope



For some reason, the PROVOLONE FAMILY looked less than excited.

But there was no time to worry about them now I had to Call the paper, and maybe take **One** more piece of cheesecake . . . I couldn't resist!

Finally, I called *The Rodent's Gazette*. When I was done squeaking, I sat down on my bed and screamed

"OUCH!"

A splinter was stuck in my paw[†] Aunt Sweetfur gently removed it and held it up.

It wasn't a splinter It was a Storid earring! Whose could it be?

That night I couldn't get to sleep. Partly because I couldn't stop thinking about the



catching And partly because I had a terrible Stomachache Oh, why had I eaten all that cheesecake?!

Cine us. 3

DO YOU KNOW WHO LOST A





Section of the superior of the piet or on Pages

Professor Gil Fishywhiskers

The following morning The Rodent's Gazette sold out all across New Mouse City.



In just a few hours, the news of my discavery had spread all over the island.

Then a **strange** thing happened. Pinch Provolone knocked at my door. "We found your **COMPUTER**. Mr Sulton." he said. "The housekeeper found it in the hallway along with Perunia's video camera."

He was about to leave when I stopped him.

"Wait" I said, handing him the Storid earring I had found in my room, "Whoever took my computer must have lost this"

Pinch turned **RED**, grabbed the earring, and disappeared

It was then that I remembered who wore Gold earrings—the Provolone children! Just then my cell phone began Ilnging like crazy. So much for the quick ratinap I was hoping to catch . . .

Here's who called me on the phone:



- 1. Satty Ratheusen, who was so jealous she could hardly squeak:
- 2 Grandfather William ShortpawS, who was so happy he could hardly squeak;
- 3 Mayor Frederick Fuzzypaws, who wanted to exhibit the shell at the New Mouse City Mouseum of Natural History;
- 4. Twenty-five (ollectors who wanted to buy the pearl:
- 5. Twenty-five jewe ers who wanted to buy the pearl;

And many others!

By the time I hung up, I was exhausted.

I went to find my friends.

"I don't know what to do," I squeaked worrtedly, "Everyone wants to get their paws on the [55]."

I chewed on my whiskers, feeling helpless. How could I make sure that The Eye of the Ocean was safe? Anyone could steal it from the ocean The more I thought about it, the more hopeless I felt. Before long I was sobbing like a newborn mouseler. How humiliating?

Petunia interrupted my crying jag. "Cheer up, G," she said "I have a plan"

Then she told me that she had called Uncle Grayfur, and he had given her the number of the director of the New Mouse City Aquarium. His name was Professor 67 Fighywhiskers.

"He's an old friend of your uncle's. He'll help us!" Petunia insisted.

Fishywhiskers. The minute 1 introduced myself, he began squeaking so FAST I wondered how he was able to breathe. I

couldn't get a word in edgewise!

Apparently, he, too, had read the paper, Dan't move!

and was thrilled by my discovery

"Don't move from where you are!" he shouted excitedly "I'll be on Shell Island sometime in the morning with the proper gear. That ovster needs to be removed very Data Fund.

It's an extremely rare speciment

I hung up the **Dhone** feeling a whole lot better, Professor Fishywhiskers to the resque!

But just then I had a thought that made me-SHUDDER

What if the Provolone siblings had already taken the **OYSTEP** last night?

Lucky for me, Petunia read my mind.





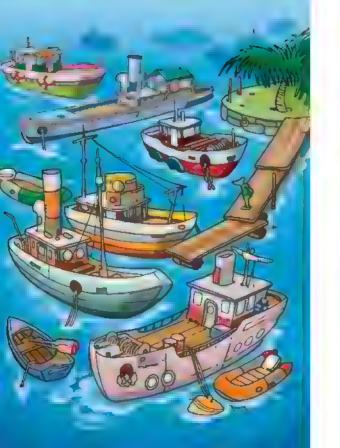
It's an Invasion!

Even though we had the **plug** from the Provolones' boat, we decided it would be a good idea to keep an **eye** on them anyway

Aunt Sweetfur offered to watch the beach with Benjamin and Bugsy Wugsy while Petunia and I hung around the hotel.

But first we had to eat breakfast. I was starving! I had just ordered the Shell Island Happy Morning Special—a three-cheese omelette, cheddar homefries, a mozzarella milkshake, and a fruit bowl—when we heard a LOUD noise coming from the docks

Outside we saw dozens of sailing into the port Reporters, collectors, and other curious rodents were **Swarming** the island, hoping to sneak a **PEEK** at



Mr. Schon

The Eye of the Oceans

PINCH Provolone was
HYSTERICAL. "It's an
invasion! Do something, Mr.
Stilton!" he squeaked.

I had to admit, it was a little SCARY to see all these rodents clambering up the beach, squeaking at the top of their lungs.

Still, I tried to remain calm.

"It's okay," I told Pinch "In a few hours, a team from the New Mouse City Aquarium will be here to remove the **Oyster**, and everything will be back to NORMAL."

Pinch nodded, but he didn't look happy.

He ran off and began CHATTERING

up a storm with Simon

Fortunately, Professor Fishywhiskers was a mouse of his word. It wasn't long before he arrived in a strange-looking craft that read

New Mouse City Aquarium Laboratory Ship on its side.

I shook paws with the professor and we all boarded the ship.

As soon as we got on board, Simon ran over to the ship's captain, and the two began whispering It seemed Simon and Captain

B. Crooked Paw (also known as Old Crook, Cap Paw, and The Crookinator) knew each other well.



How Strange!

But there was no time to think about it. Before long, we reached the area where we first found the oyster A scuba diver JUMPED into the water. I held my breath, I was a WPCL.

What if something had happened to the oyster?







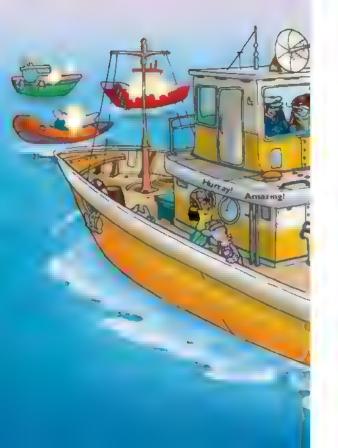
I stared into the water, feeling faint. If the oyster was missing, everyone would think I was a by a great count.

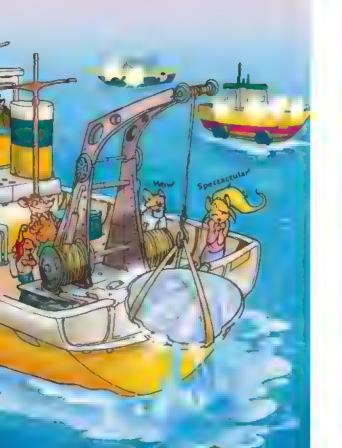
I was so worried I hardly noticed the around our ship filled with reporters, collectors, and other sightseers.

Finally, the diver resurfaced. He had **found** the oyster! He put it in a safety net, and Captain Crooked Paw used a crane to hoist it up.

As soon as The Eye of the Ocean emerged from the sea, the crowd cheered. It was **Spectacular**:

Video cameras rolled and cameras *lashed again and again as everyone gawked at the incredible, **enormouse** oyster.





"Slowly, Captain! BE CAREFUL!" Professor Fishywhiskers warned.

The captain lowered the oyster through a large trapdoor that led to the holding tank. We raced DOWN the stairs after it as Petunia filmed the entire thing. Then the professor began examining the shell, taking its Widow and measurements, and photographing it from every angle.

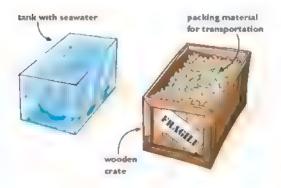
Finally, the oyster was X-rayed, revealing the **enormouse** pearl hidden inside.

"It's absolutely **faburnouse**!" exclaimed the professor as soon as he saw the X-ray

"Now what are we going to do?" I asked the professor. I was feeling very responsible for the oyster and was still a little nervous that someone might damage it

"Don't worry. We'll immerse the oyster in a specially made tank filled with \$83Water Then we'll place the tank into a water crate cushioned with packing material, and transport it home," he explained. "We've got a beautiful new tank at the aquarium ready to hold it. Rodents will come from all over the world to admire this RARE find."

I sighed with relief I was so glad the professor had arrived and taken control of



the situation Being responsible for such a priceless treasure was making my whiskers twitch.

Now everyone watched as the giant oyster was placed in the wooden crate and SEALED shut Then Simon asked a question I hadn't even thought about.

"Once the closed shell is settled in your aquarium. Professor, how will anyone be able to see the **enormouse** pearlingide?" he said.

The professor nodded knowingly. "Young mouse, I'm happy to inform you that I know the SECRET to opening the shell without damaging it in any way. Of course, I can't tell you _____ I do it, for security reasons—you understand But if you come

to the New Mouse City Aquarium I guarantee you will see the **enormouse** pearl in all its glory!" he squeaked excitedly Simon nodded, then exchanged a with the captain.

How Strange



By the time the oyster was packed up safe and sound, it was **dusk**. The professor wanted to leave immediately, but Captain Crooked Paw refused to sail

"We'll spend the **NIGHT** at the dock, then leave first thing in the morning," he insisted.

Later at dinner. Professor Fishywhiskers stroked his beard **nervously**. "I'm not sure why, but I have a **bad** feeling." he confessed. "I think it would be a good idea if we all keep an **eye** on the oyster tonight."

Petunia and I volunteered to stay on the boat and guard the **Oyster** while Aunt Sweetfur stayed with Benjamin and Bugsy Wugsy in the hotel.

After dinner, we went back to the laboratory ship to spend the night. I have to admit. I wasn't crazy about the idea of Surface on a boat Did I mention that I get **Seasick**?

Oh, well At least the boat was staying at the dock. I was just thinking that maybe I shouldn't have eaten that second a cheddarburger, when the professor waved us into his cabin.

I'm worried!

"The oyster is in DANGER, and I may be as well. If something happens to me. I want you to know how to open The Eye of the Ocean

without harming it "

"Don't be silly, Professor," Petunia reassured him.

But the professor insisted. He whispered

the SECRET in our ears. Petunia and I looked at each other, surprised.

"Now that I told you, I feel better," said the professor, "Go and take your watch **CUARDING** the oyster We'll say good-bye tomorrow morning."

Petunia and I settled ourselves on the ship's deck wrapped in **MOGLE** blankets.

Above us, the sky was filled with



For a while, I forgot about the oyster. It was a beautiful night, and I was with the mouse of my DREAMS' Too bad I was tired Before long. I was snoring away When I woke up at dawn, I was drooting. How embarrassing!

Even worse—when I went to check on the oyster. I discovered the professor had disappeared!

ciue ng. 4

CAN YOU GUESS WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PROFESSOR?







OPEN THAT CRATE!

We looked for the PROFESSOR everywhere. Aunt Sweetfur, Benjamin, Bugsy Wugsy, and even some of the PROVOLONE FAMILY helped us search But there was no trace of him. He had VAINISH FD!

Where had he gone? My mind raced.

Back at the pier, we saw a helicopter **Circling** the beach. Simon was showing it where to land.

Meanwhile, on the ship. Captain Crooked
Paw was using the crane to Lift the crate
containing the oyster Up into the air
"Stop!" I cried "What's going on?"
Captain Crooked Paw stared down at me

with STEELY eyes. "Mr. Stilton, I am only protecting the oyster." he announced. "It's not safe on this ship now that the professor has dill.", so I called the aquarium's head office. They sent us a helicopter to transport the oyster."

The captain was right. The ship was not safe anymore. What if the **Oyster** went **MISSING**, just like the professor? Still, something was **BOTHERING** me.

"Okay," I agreed. "But before you leave, I want to make sure the **Oyster** is still in its place."

"That means we'll have to open the crate. It will take **TOO LONG**, right, Captain?" Simon objected.

Suddenly, as I stared at Simon and the crate, I realized what was **BOTHERING** me.



"Captain, I insist you That crate now!" I demanded.

"All right, all right," the captain grumbled "Don't get your whiskers in a twist"

ciue ne. 5

DO YOU SEE WHAT GEROXIMO NOTICED ADOUT THE CRATE AND SIMON?



bm gnotw belogs zielignik b mwedf zwog zad ne tning bes zad nom 2



EVERYTHING'S THE SAME

Reluctantly, the captain lifted the lit off the crate and everyone peeked inside. At first, I was relieved The oyster was still there, immersed in the Wolfe. But then I noticed something Strange

"That's odd. It doesn't seem like the same **oyster** . . "I murmured

The captain scoffed. "Of course it's the Same one." He reached for the lid, struggling to replace it.

"It's exactly the same," added Simon, who was **Sweating** like a sprinkler.

"I think it looks fine, G," said Petunia,

"Everything's the same," Aunt Sweetfur



agreed. 11 n/ nq at me as well

What was with all the winking? Was my FIRR a mess? Did I have a piece of Cneese stuck between my teeth?

I looked at Benjamin "The oyster looks perfect, Uncle Geronimo," he announced, shooting me a 226

Bugsy Wugsy nodded, grabbing my paw and squeezing it **hard**. Youch' I chewed my whiskers to keep from squeaking.

What was everyone trying to TELL me?

I was still trying to figure it out when the captain interrupted my thoughts. "See, there's NO problem!" he declared.

A minute later, he signaled for the helicopter to remove the crate. Then the captain and Simon disapport into the ship.

"Do you think it will get there **Safely**?"
I asked.



"It doesn't matter, G." Petunia said.
"Because the Peal oyster is not in that crate!
It's a faile! We all realized, but we didn't want the captain or any of the Provolones to know we are onto them. That's what we were trying to tell you."

Inodded GLOWY So that's why everyone was winking at me!

Still, I was confused. "But how can you be so sure it's a 12/6" I asked

Benjamin smiled "It was simple. Uncle Geronimo. We just **Studied** the shell." he explained.

ctue ng. 6

DO YOU KNOW WHY EVERYONE THINKS THE DYSTER IS FAKE?



Compare the picture on page 87 with the picture on page 73 the real oysters shall has five ribs The take one that only lour.

PETUNIA'S NOTE

Petunia explained to me that the real oyster's shell has FIVE ribs on it, while the fake one has only FOUP Now I knew why something seemed different about the shell. The captain and the Provolones were out to trick us. They were out to Steal the oyster!

All of a sudden I felt sick. If the REAL oyster wasn't on its way to New Mouse City, then where was it? Was it still on the island? And where was Professor Fishy whiskers?

Back at the hotel, my mind raced. This trip was turning into a total NIGHTMARE What else could go wrong?

I was so worried about everything, I couldn't think straight. I chewed my pawnails, and my tail wouldn't stop twitching.

To calm my MRTVRS, I tried doing a few relaxing yoga moves I had learned from my cousin Serenity Stilton. They didn't work Instead, I ended up twisting myself up like a pretzet UQN!

Next I tried drinking a **scotthing** cup of chamomile tea But it was too **HOT**, and I burned my tongue. Outh!

Then I decided to take a nice warm bath Too bad I accidentally poured Suntan letion into the tub instead of bubble bath.

YUCK!

Finally, I gave up and headed off to dinner. Aunt Sweetfur, Benjamin, and Bugsy Wugsy were all waiting for me

But where was Petunia?

No one had seen her.

We decided to check her room. When we got there, I knocked, but there was no answer.

The door wasn't **LOCKED**, so we went in. The room was empty. Then, I spotted a major note on the dresser. It was addressed

"To Geronimo"

I opened it with trembling paws It read:

> There's a big cave on the west side of the beach. I might have found the oyster... and something else as well. I'll wait for you there. Hurry!

Petunia

P.S. Bring Aunt Sweetfur's flute.



My fur stood on END, but there was no time to take another crack at those Ke,dxing yoga moves now We had to find Petunia!

Aunt Sweetfur grabbed the flute and we all snuck off into the night.

Luckily, Benjamin had brought along a floathing he, which we used to find our



way to the beach. Once there, we headed west just like Petunia had instructed The sand was **Squishy** beneath my paws, and once or twice I felt like I may have stepped on a **SEA CRAB**. I tried not to think about it Did I mention I'm not big on crusty sea creatures? Especially ones that like to **Pinch** you with their claws when you least suspect it!

Finally, after about fifteen minutes, we saw a bright coming from what

appeared to be a cave.

An at Sweet fat told Benjamin and Bugsy to Staty pul while we went ahead to investigate I was dying to stay put myself, but how could I send an old lady off alone in the DARK?

Slowly, we crept forward toward the light When we reached the CAVE, we pecked inside

Sitting around a CAMPFILE were the Provolone children and Captain Crooked Paw. They were SQUCALING and LAUGHING like old friends In a corner. I spotted poor Professor Fishywhiskers tied up like a Salami, and in the center of the cave sat The Eye of the Ocean.

"You'd better tell us how to open that oyster. Professor, if you know what's good for you!" Simon threatened.

But the professor refused to SQUEAK.

"Hey, Simon," Sinbad piped up,
"how about we break the shell
with this hammer?"

"Good IDEE," Simon snickered, reaching for the tool

This sent the professor into a frenzy.

"No!" he shricked "That oyster is a RARE treasure! A priceless discovery! A UNIQUE specimen! A "

Aunt Sweetfur and I tiptoed away Maybe if the professor could keep the crooks talking, we could think of some way to help.

At that moment, Benjamin and Bugsy Wugsy ran up to us.

"Look who we found!" they cried







THE GHOST OF SHELL ISLAND

The voice I heard in the **DARK** made my heart skip.

"Did you bring the flute, G?"

It was Petunia!

"Sorry I worried you," she whispered, taking the flute from me.



"What are we going to do?" I asked

"Don't worry. I've got a plan. Listen carefully...." Petunia began.

I grinned, I should have known Petunia would figure out what to do. Now do you see why I like her so much? That mouse thinks of **everything**!

Following Petunia, we CLIMBED up the rocks to the top of the cave Petunia pointed to a SIDALL crevice on the cave's ceiling, which gave us a perfect view inside

"Okay, it's up to you." Petunia whispered to Benjamin. "Do you **remember** what to say?"

He nodded, leaning toward the crack

Then he took a deep breath and bellowed at the top of his lungs, "You miserable rodents! How dare you enter my sacred cave!"

As Petunia had predicted, Benjamin's voice reverberated throughout the cave like thunder. It sounded so SCARY. I had to remind myself it was just my nephew.

Meanwhile, the Provolone siblings and the captain turned as 'a sofour slices of mozzarella!

Benjamin covered his mouth to keep from LAUGHING

"Wh-who are you?" the captain asked.

"I am the ghost of Shell Island' How dare you steal one of my most beautiful daughters from my waters?" Benjamin yelled.

"We didn't steal it, we found it?" Simon insisted. "Besides, how do we know you're not a crook?"

"How dare you call me a crook? Now you will pay" my nephew shouted. At this, Petunia quickly approached the crack and began playing the flute. "Is this a joke?" asked Simon, looking around But just then the oyster's shell began to open, revealing its great treasure, the

enormouse parti

That was Professor Fishywhiskers's secret.

The shell would open at the sound of

11 USIC!

"Let's grab it and get out of here!" cried the captain. **hurling** himself toward the pearl. The Provolone siblings followed him.

"Good-bye, pearl," I murmured

But Petunia had a plan. She waited until those crooks **stretched** their

paws toward the pearl and then she suddenly stopped playing. The shell shut on their paws with a loud Sngp?

"Help! Let us go!" they cried

"Promise you will never set paw in this cave ever again!" Benjamin yelled into the crack



"We promise!" yelled the crooks, 50 bbing like baby mouselets

Then Petunia played a few notes on the flute and the shell opened Captain Crooked Paw and the Provolone siblings TOOK OFF with their tails between their legs

"You think we'll ever see them again, Uncle G?" Benjamin asked

"Not a **GHOST** of a chance!" I replied.

And everyone laughed.

Twenty minutes later, we loaded the oyster back onto the laboratory ship

"TP NEW MPUSE CiTY!" Professor Fishy whiskers cheered as we set sail with our precious treasure safe and sound.

A GOOD LUCK CHARM

On the day they opened the new exhibit at the New Mouse City Aquarium,

Frederick Fuzzypaws, Professor Fishywhiskers, the entire staff of The Rodent's Gazette, and lots of other curious rodents. Naturally, we

Even though I had been the one to find the oyster. I knew it was just dumb luck that had led me to it. I tried my best to let Petunia do all the talking. After all, if it wasn't for her DOCOMENTARY we would have never been on Shell Island in the first place!

were all there as well.

But when all the photographers began

snapping photos. Petuna wanted me right by her side. Picture it, me side by side with the most fascinating rodent on all of Mouse Island, the rodent of my dreams! I was in heaven!

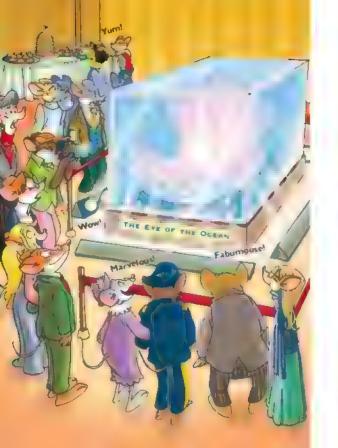
Then, just when I thought things couldn't get any more exciting, the most fastmouse music began playing from the overhead speakers. To everyone's surprise. The Eye of the Ocean slowly opened, revealing the enormouse pearl inside.

"000000000000000000hin

the crowd gasped in amazement.

I took that moment to whisper to my aunt Sweetfur the one question I had been meaning to ask her

Why did she have a flute in her suitease on our trip?



"It's a special gift Uncle Grayfur gave me many years ago. It's my good little that I'll!! I take it with me wherever I go "She beamed "I showed Petunia on the plane ride over to Shell Island. Isn't that LUCKY?" I smiled It sure was!

I gazed again at the **enormouse**[551] before me, and then at Petunia by
my side. No, I didn't have a good little
[bal'III like Aunt Sweetfur, but right then
I felt like the luckiest rodent on Mouse Island!

Don't miss any of my other fabumouse adventures!







#1 Last Treasure of the Emergial Eye

07 The Carso of the Chance Pyromial

#3 Cat and Mouse in a Huunted Heese











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45 Frue Mary Doop on the Jungle

od Pour OR. Collinson

a7 Bod Paper for a Shar Court

2.5 Attack of the Sanda Cata











#9 A Februarios Vacation for Corneimo



#13 to a Hollowen, You Trudy Bossel

#12 Marry Christmen. Gerenmel

913 The Phonton of the Solway







Flő & Goose-Colored Constar



\$17 Watch Your Washers, Stibus!



#18 Shipwook so the Pirate Shads





#19 My Jiema Is Stilton, Gazonemo Stilton



#20 Sorf's Up.



e21 The Wild, Wild West



#22 The Socret of Cacklebo Cartle



A Classines Tale



#23 Volontino's Day Disurter



e24 Footd Trap to Histogram Fails



#25 The Sourch for Souhon Transpro



#26 (to Honory web No Honor



e37 flo Christian Toy factory



#26 Wedding Creshot



#29 Down and Out Down Voder



e30 The Marye Island Marythna



#31 flor Mysterions Cheese Thinf



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#32 Yallay of the Giant Sheletota



e33 Corsume and the Gold Model Bystery



#32 Geronmo Stibon, Socret Agent



#35 A Yory Morry Christians



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#42 The People Peoples Third



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644 The Great Discovered Robbery



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648 The Mystery in Venice



649 The Way of the Samera



#50 This Hotel Is Hometed



#51 The Energia page Pogel Haist





952 Avere in Spinsl

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Then Stilling and the Proce's Emeroid



CREEPELLA VON CACRLEFUR

I, Homeimo Chibal, have a lot of mount friends, but none as specify as my friend Character von Cacklastik! Since is an enchanting and HYSTERIOS mouse with a pot but mamed Offendy mouse, but even I think Character fruidy mouse, but even I think Character for family are constantly faccinating. I can't wait for you to read all about Character is these formation in these family and the mouse-is fruing and speciacularly mounty takes







OR OTHER PERSON



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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

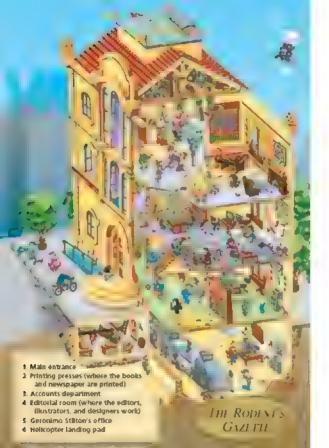


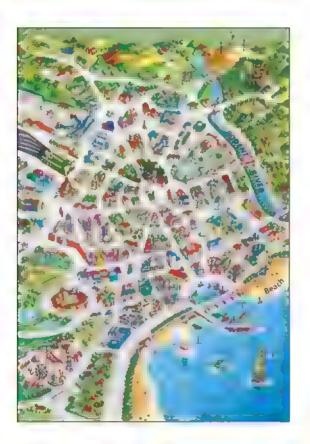
Born in New Mouse City, Mouse Island, GERONIMO STILTON is Rattus Emeritus of Mousomorphic Literature and of Neo-Ratonic Comparative Philosophy For the past twenty years he has been

running The Rodent's Gazette, New Mouse City's most widely read daily newspaper

Sulton was awarded the Ratitzer Prize for his scoops on The Curse of the Cheese Pyramid and The Search for Sanken Treasure. He has also received the Andersen 2000 Prize for Personality of the Year One of his bestsellers won the 2002 eBook Award for world's best rathings' electronic book. His works have been published all over the globe.

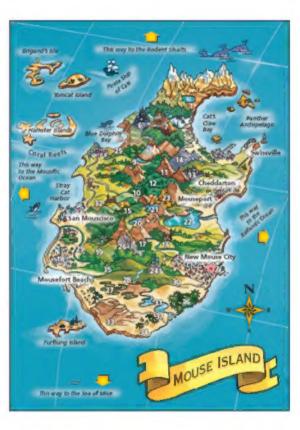
In his spare time, Mr Stifton collects antique cheese rinds and plays golf. But what he most enjoys is telling stories to his nephew Benjamin





Map of New Mouse City

1	Industrial Zone	24.	The Dally Rat
2.	Choose Factories	25.	The Rodent's Gazette
3.	Angerat International	26.	Trap's House
	Alrport	27	Fashion District
4,	WRAT Radio and	28	The Mouse House
	Television Station		Restaurant
5.	Cisesse Market	29.	Environmental
6.	Fish Market		Protection Center
7.	Town Hall	30.	Harbor Office
8.	Snotnose Castle	31.	Mousidon Square
9.	The Seven Hills of		Garden
	Mouse Island	32.	Golf Course
10	Mouse Central Station	33	Swimming Pool
11	Trade Center	34.	Tennis Courts
12	Moyle Theater	35.	Curlyfur Island
13.	Gym		Amusement Park
14.	Catnegie Hall		Geronimo's House
15.	Singing Stone Plaza	37.	Historic District
16.	The Gouda Theater	38.	Public Library
17.	Grand Hotel	39	Shipyard
100	Mouse General Hospital	B.E.	Thea's House
19.	Botanical Gardens	41.	New Mouse Harbor
20	Cheap Junk for Less	42	Luna Lighthouse
	(Trap's store)	43	The Statue of Liberty
21.	Aunt Sweetfur and	44	Hercule Poirat's Office
	Benjamin's house	45.	Petunia Pretty Paws's
22	Mouseum of		House
	Modern Art	46.	Grandfather William's
23.	University and Library		House



Map of Mouse Island

- 1. Blg Ice Lake
- 2. Frozen Fur Peak
- 3. Silpperyslopes Glader
- 4. Coldcreeps Peak
- 5. Ratzikistan
- 6. Transratania 7. Mount Vamp
- 8. Roastedrat Volcano
- 9. Brimstone Lake
- 10. Poopedcat Pass
- 11. Stinko Peak
- 12. Dark Forest
- 13. Vain Vampires Valley
- 14. Goose Bumps Gorge
- 15. The Shadow Line Pass
- 16. Penny Pincher Castle
- 17. Nature Reserve Park
- 18. Las Ratayas Marinas
- 19. Fossil Forest
- 20. Lake Lake

- 21. Lake Lakelake
- 22. Lake Lakelakelake
- 23. Cheddar Crao
- 24. Cannycat Castle
- Valley of the Glant Sequola
- 26. Cheddar Springs
- 27. Sulfurous Swamp
- 28. Old Reliable Geyser
- 29. Vole Vale
- 30. Ravingrat Ravino
- 31. Gnat Marshes 32. Munster Highlands
- 33. Mousehara Desert
- 34. Oasis of the
- Sweaty Camel 35. Cabbagehead Hill
- 36. Rattytrap Jungle
- 37. Rio Mosquito



Dear mouse friends,
Thanks for reading, and farewell
till the next book.
It'll be another whisker-licking-good
adventure, and that's a promise!



Geronimo Stilton



Geronimo Stilton

THE ENORMOUSE PEARL HEIST



₩SCHOLASTIC